Nevada State Library, Archives and Public Records

2017 LSTA Mini Grants - $48,800

The mini-grant category funds projects of $5,000 or less. A maximum of $50,000 is earmarked for these programs. The State Council on Libraries and Literacy endorses the list of applications and the funds are granted at the direction of the State Library and Archives Administrator.

Mini-grants applications are reviewed by State Library and Archives staff and the State Library and Archives Administrator. As with full grant applications, the projects must be sound, must have a reasonable budget, must have a good evaluation component and the library must be able to accomplish the program in the time allotted.

In alphabetical order, below are the mini-grants received for the 2017 funding year. Funding of grants is contingent on the federal monies being allocated to the state.

Carson City Library, *Playaway Audiobook Collection Upgrade* $5,000

This project will consist of purchasing Playaway audiobooks for the library's collection, as well as holding a program to encourage more usage of Playaway books. Playaway format audiobooks have significant advantages over CD books. Since they are self-contained media players containing a single audiobook, they are easier to use and very seldom become damaged. They are also much easier for staff to check in quickly than CD audiobooks, which get scratched or broken easily and require time to check that all discs are present and to contact patrons when discs go missing. These audiobooks are used by children, adults, and seniors. Children and people with learning disabilities often use them, sometimes in tandem with print books, to improve their literacy skills. Seniors who have trouble handling or reading print books frequently prefer audiobooks, and prefer the easy-to-use Playaway player to CDs. Many adults also enjoy audiobooks, especially when driving or doing other activities. Our audiobook collection is one of our most frequently circulating collections, despite its relatively small size. We currently collect CD and Playaway audiobooks, which both do well, but our Playaway collection is still fairly small. As a result of this project, patrons will have a larger selection of durable audiobooks to choose from. The books will stay in circulation longer than CD audiobooks and allow the library to spend less money on replacements and more on new titles.

Churchill County High School Library, *Digital Library Starter Project* $5,000

The Churchill County School District has a new digital curriculum plan in place, and is beginning the implementation process. The teachers at the high school have already begun adjusting their curriculum to match new standards due to each student receiving a Google Chromebook. The technology goal for the school district is to optimize and integrate technology opportunities supporting 21st Century learning skills, including critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration, creativity and innovation.

As an extension of this new learning style, the Churchill County High School Library would like to supplement the curriculum with eBooks and eAudiobooks to bring easily accessible literacy to the new technology being made available by the Churchill County School District and acting on the responsibility to educate the students on the use of digital literacy. MackinVia is the digital library platform the school uses, it has log-ins for staff and student already in place. The funds from this grant will be used to purchase a starter collection including class sets of eBook titles for the English Department, along with popular fiction in both eBook and eAudiobook formats. The CCHS library will donate a portion of the in-kind matching funds for this grant from the fines and fees account.

Great Basin College, *Great Basin College Collection Preservation & Archive* $5,000

This project intends to make hundreds of items accessible to patrons via repair and preservation. The Great Basin College (GBC) Library has a collection of nearly 70,000 items. We have a general collection that serves many disciplines, a reference collection, film, government documents, children's and juvenile literature, maps, and three Special Collections. The library is also responsible for archiving the institutional scrapbooks. These scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings, letters, photos, and more. An important core value at the library is to make available our collection to all students, faculty, staff, and community members when they have an information need. We do not currently own

preservation or repair supply materials and it is beginning to show. We have nearly a dozen books that are deemed unusable; pulled from the shelves and inaccessible. Staff estimate over 150 in the stacks that they are aware of in need minor repairs. The library is part of an Inter library loan system and we lend books to libraries across the country. We also ship books to our rural centers for student use. This project would allow countless books to be repaired, many to return to the shelves, and the institutional scrapbooks to be kept secure in archive boxes. The end result being patron access.

Henderson District Public Libraries, *Capturing Henderson's History: One Scan at a Time* $5,000

Seniors in the Paseo Verde Library area of the Henderson community own photographs, letters, and other memorabilia that are valuable to preserving the collective memory of Henderson. Many of these people have no way of sharing them with the rest of the community or effectively preserving the materials. Henderson Libraries (HL) proposes a Scanning Day event to encourage community members to contribute their family memories to HL archival collection, discover historical Henderson, and learn preservation methods using tools that they may not otherwise have access to or the knowledge to use. The grant would fund the purchase of scanning equipment, supplies, and publicity for the event. Participants will be able to digitize their family memories, allowing them to preserve them as digital copies that they can keep and share with whomever they want, and, if they choose to do so, contribute to HL's online archival collection, known as the HL's Digital Collections. This unique, community-built, local history collection consists of thousands of publicly accessible digital materials that showcase the early history of Henderson. It is an invaluable resource for anyone interested in Henderson's beginnings. Most importantly, many of these items are donations from members of the community. This project would continue that tradition by providing a means for Henderson residents to add to the collection and bolster Henderson's commitment to preserving historical materials.

Lyon County Library, *Minecraftappaloosa* $5,000

Lyon County Library youth lack quality STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) out of school educational opportunities. Targeting 6th-10th grade youth of Yerington using the resources from this LSTA grant will support lifelong learning and digital literacy skills. Minecraftappaloosa will also help youth develop and sharpen marketable skills from group work to basic computer programming skills.

Pershing County Library, *Graphic Novels* $5,000

The staff of Pershing County Library will use LSTA Mini-Grant funds to create a Graphic Novels Collection for children and teens. With input from our patrons we will select and purchase Graphic Novels, Light Novels, and Manga. We hope that this collection will attract more youth to the library, that they will read more, and in so doing, improve their reading skills.

Pershing County High School Library, *TLC-Maker Space* $5,000

Makerspaces promote student initiated learning through a construction-based and hands-on learning environment. Educational Makerspaces in school libraries help students develop critical thinking skills and problem solving, by transforming the teacher from a deliverer of instruction into a facilitator or couch for independent learning. In the spring of 2016, Pershing County High School completely remodeled the library into a technology rich and modern learning environment. The new space or Teen Learning Center (TLC) is essentially one large technology driven Makerspace. The TLC has been so well received by the students that LSTA funds are requested to grow and improve the Makerspace capabilities by purchasing twelve 30 Doodle Pens and accessories, Zometools, Fischertechnic sets, K'nex sets, circuit sets and additional maker kits, and materials. With more kits and supplies, students will have additional resources to connect learning across the disciplines of science, math, art, reading, writing, technology and engineering.

Sierra Nevada College, *SNC Makerspace* $4,800

We are requesting funds to establish and develop a makerspace in the Sierra Nevada College library for student, faculty, and community use. We currently own a 30 printer and digitizer and we would like to fully develop a makerspace in the library with additional equipment and supplies. While the primary audience is SNC students, community members would be welcome to use the tools and materials as this provides an opportunity for interaction between students and local users.

UNR - Savitt, *Improving Rural Patron Access to Consumer Health Information* $5,000

This describes a collaboration between the Savitt Medical Library of the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, and the Lyon County Library System, which has branches in Yerington, Dayton, Smith, Fernley, and Silver Springs. Rural library patrons use public libraries as pivotal community access points to help find consumer health information. Library patrons are often ill equipped to locate authoritative health information on their own. Public librarians, too, may lack sufficient training and expertise to provide appropriate reference assistance in helping patrons make effective use of health related Internet resources. Finally, although an enormous amount of consumer health information is available, much of it is unreliable, biased, commercially motivated, or out of date.

This project intends to make the process of finding credible, authoritative health information easier and more productive. It will help public librarians develop new skills and acquire new knowledge, enabling them to promote better service to rural patrons. Through a program of on-site workshops, medical library specialists will teach patrons and library staff how to more effectively search for and evaluate consumer health information. Following a needs assessment to guide content selection, the project will identify key resources and integrate them into an easily navigable web guide to give patrons a path to vetted, credible health information resources that best match their needs and health literacy levels.

White Pine County Library, *3D Printing Exploration* $5,000

This grant would provide the White Pine County Library the opportunity to introduce 30 printing to students in grades 7th through 9th. The students would learn what a 30 printer is and see the technology that makes 30 printing work. They would learn what 30 printers are used for and what the future of 30 printing may be. A beginners 30 printer and accessories would be purchased to be used in workshops for hands-on 30 printing exploration. Students would learn to use design programs to create a project. As well students would learn the principles of good design and see the results of their own efforts emerging from a 30 printer. The desire would be the students to develop interest in technical and engineering fields motivating them to take more math and science classes